

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

June 4, 2025

The Honorable Pete Hegseth
Secretary
Department of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301-1000

The Honorable Steve Feinberg
Deputy Secretary
Department of Defense
1010 Defense Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301-1010

Secretary Hegseth and Deputy Secretary Feinberg,

As you look to implement President Trump's executive order (EO) "The Iron Dome for America" or Golden Dome, we urge you to take immediate action that will provide operationally relevant capability within the administration's term of office.

President Trump's EO directs the "acceleration of the deployment of the Hypersonic and Ballistic Tracking Space Sensor layer" or HBTSS. As you know, the Missile Defense Agency has successfully demonstrated the HBTSS capability to track hypersonic missiles through a prototype system that was launched on February 14, 2024. This HBTSS capability is currently being acquired for operational use through the Space Development Agency's (SDA) Tracking Tranche 1 and Tranche 2, in limited quantity.

To expedite the deployment of the HBTSS layer, in response to the President's EO, it is recommended that an additional 40 space vehicles with proven HBTSS payloads be acquired to provide hypersonic tracking across the Homeland and global areas of interest. If funding is provided in Fiscal Year 2025 the first launch of these additional space vehicles can begin in roughly 36 months, within the timeframe of this administration. We strongly urge that the department reprogram \$750 million of FY25 funding and direct the SDA to put an additional 40 space vehicles on their Tracking Tranche 2 contract.

We are committed to seeing this administration's success on The Iron Dome for America EO (Golden Dome) and believe HBTSS provides the quickest path to providing tangible results. We look forward to collaborating with you on the successful execution of the Golden Dome initiative and strengthening our homeland defense.

Sincerely,



Marlin A. Stutzman
Member of Congress



Mike Haridopolos
Member of Congress



Jefferson Shreve
Member of Congress



Neal P. Dunn, M.D.
Member of Congress



Erin Houchin
Member of Congress



Mark B. Messmer
Member of Congress